IN THE CLAIMS

Please replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application with the following list of claims:

1-99. (Canceled)

100. (Currently Amended) An oligonucleotide having the following structure: 5' T*C_G*T*C_G*T*T*T*T*G*A*C_G*T*T*T*T*G*T*C_G*T*T 3' (SEQ ID NO: 313), wherein * refers to the presence of a ~~stabilized~~ phosphorothioate internucleotide linkage, and wherein _ refers to the presence of a phosphodiester internucleotide linkage and wherein the oligonucleotide has a length of 24-40 nucleotides.

101. (Previously Presented) The oligonucleotide of claim 100, wherein the oligonucleotide consists essentially of 5' T*C_G*T*C_G*T*T*T*T*G*A*C_G*T*T*T*T*G*T*C_G*T*T 3' (SEQ ID NO: 313).

102. (Previously Presented) The oligonucleotide of claim 100, wherein the oligonucleotide consists of 5' T*C_G*T*C_G*T*T*T*T*G*A*C_G*T*T*T*T*G*T*C_G*T*T 3' (SEQ ID NO: 313).

103-104. (Canceled)

105. (Previously Presented) An oligonucleotide having the following structure: 5' T*C_G*T*C_G*T*T*T*T*G*A*C_G*T*T*T*T*G*T*C_G*T*T 3' (SEQ ID NO: 313) wherein each * refers to a phosphorothioate internucleotide linkage and each _ refers to a phosphodiester internucleotide linkage, and wherein the oligonucleotide is 24 nucleotides in length.

106. (Previously Presented) A pharmaceutical composition comprising an oligonucleotide as defined in claim 100 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

107. (Previously Presented) A pharmaceutical composition comprising an oligonucleotide as defined in claim 105 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

108. (New) An immunostimulatory nucleic acid molecule having at least one internal cytosine-guanine (CG) dinucleotide and a chimeric backbone, wherein the at least one internal CG dinucleotide has a phosphodiester internucleotide linkage, wherein optionally each additional internal YZ dinucleotide has a phosphodiester or stabilized internucleotide linkage, and wherein all other internucleotide linkages are stabilized with a phosphorothioate internucleotide linkage.

109. (New) The oligonucleotide of claim 108, wherein the immunostimulatory nucleic acid comprises a plurality of internal CG dinucleotides having a phosphodiester internucleotide linkage.

110. (New) The oligonucleotide of claim 108, wherein the immunostimulatory nucleic acid molecule is a B-Class immunostimulatory nucleic acid molecule.

111. (New) The oligonucleotide of claim 108, wherein the immunostimulatory nucleic acid molecule is 4-100 nucleotides long.

112. (New) The oligonucleotide of claim 108, wherein the immunostimulatory nucleic acid molecule is not an antisense oligonucleotide, triple-helix-forming oligonucleotide, or ribozyme.

113. (New) The oligonucleotide of claim 108, wherein the nucleic acid has a backbone comprising deoxyribose or ribose.

114. (New) An oligonucleotide comprising:
5'T*C_G(N_6C_G N_7)$_{2-3}$T*C_G*T*T3' (SEQ ID NOs: 311-312)

wherein N_6 and N_7 are independently between 1 and 5 nucleotides in length, and optionally N_6 is one nucleotide, preferably T or A and optionally N_7 is five nucleotides, preferably five pyrimidines or TTTTG wherein * refers to the presence of a phosphorothioate internucleotide linkage, and wherein _ refers to the presence of a phosphodiester internucleotide linkage and wherein the oligonucleotide has a length of 16-40 nucleotides.

115. (New) An oligonucleotide comprising:

5' TCGTCGTTTTGACGTTTTGTCGTT 3' (SEQ ID NO: 368)

wherein at least one CG dinucleotide has a phosphodiester internucleotide linkage, and the oligonucleotide includes at least one phosphorothioate internucleotide linkage.

116. (New) An oligonucleotide comprising:

5'GNC 3', wherein N is a nucleic aid sequence of 4-10 nucleotides in length and is at least 50% T and does not include a CG dinucleotide, and the oligonucleotide includes at least one phosphorothioate internucleotide linkage.

117. (New) An oligonucleotide comprising

N_1-C_G-N_2-C_G-N_3 (SEQ ID NO:390)

wherein N_1 and N_3 are each independently a nucleic acid sequence 1-20 nucleotides in length, wherein _ indicates an internal phosphodiester internucleotide linkage, wherein N_2 is independently a nucleic acid sequence 4-20 nucleotides in length, and wherein G-N_2-C includes at least 5 phosphorothioate linkages.

118. (New) An oligonucleotide comprising

N_1-C_G-N_2-C_G-N_3 (SEQ ID NO:391)

wherein N_1, N_2, and N_3 are each independently a nucleic acid sequence of 0-20 nucleotides in length and wherein _ indicates an internal phosphodiester internucleotide linkage, wherein the oligonucleotide is not an antisense oligonucleotide, triple-helix-forming oligonucleotide, or ribozyme.